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PC 647

CLASSIFICATION SECRET/CONTROL/US OF DETAILS ONLY

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC Kummersdorf Bombing Range

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EVALUATION 25X1X

PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

DATE OF CONTE [REDACTED]

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DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

DATE PREPARED 2 August 1951

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

~~REFERENCE COPY~~

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- Between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. on 2 June 1951, twin-engine bombers with double rudder assemblies continually practiced bombing over the bombing range in the eastern section of Kummersdorf (N 53°Z 80°) firing range. One bomb of about 50 to 100 kg was dropped from ~~each plane~~ 1, while the hits were probably observed from another plane. The bombs were released from planes flying horizontally at an altitude of about 800 meters. Bombing still continued at 3 p.m. while the wooded area was burning at several places. Between 9 and 10 a.m., individual bombs were dropped from jet aircraft flying at an estimated altitude of 3,000 meters.
- ~~the~~ Bombing over/bombing range was recently intensified. Previously, single-engine aircraft were seen diving and attacking ground targets with aircraft armament and light bombs.
- At 7:09 a.m. on 9 June, a bomb was dropped from a jet bomber flying horizontally at an altitude of about 800 meters. The bomb landed on a settlement house northeast of the railroad station of Kummersdorf firing range. The house was destroyed and all roofs of houses within 300 meters, were demolished. However, the cellars were not damaged and no crater was created by the bomb explosion. Shortly afterwards the area where the accident occurred was blocked by Soviet Air Force soldiers. A commission of air force officers arrived later to examine the damage.
- At 1 p.m. on 18 June, a formation of single-engine aircraft approached the firing range from the southwest, at an altitude of about 400 to 500 meters. The planes made a slight dive and fired at ground targets with aircraft weapons. At 4:30 p.m., four single-engine aircraft approached from the east at an altitude of 30 to 40 meters while firing with aircraft armament. Then, four aircraft of the same type approached the firing range four times at intervals of about 50 minutes. The planes were flying at an altitude of about 300 to 400 meters.
- Between 20 and 23 June, bombing was practiced daily from jet bombers flying individually and horizontally at heights from 1,000 to 1,500 meters. From the explosions heard it was the opinion of source that three different types of bombs were dropped from the jet bombers. Only one heavy bomb was released from each plane. *

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Chgs. Changed To: TS S C

OFFICER IN CHARGE: 79-978

Date: 29-9-78

By: 35

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25X1A * [REDACTED] Comment. The presence of an air force firing range in Kummendorf is known from previous reports. According to the present information the field is being used by bombers and ground attack aircraft. It is believed that the planes belong to the ground attack regiments stationed in Reinsdorf and to the bomber regiments at Jueterbog-Altes Lager airfield to which twin-jet aircraft are also assigned.

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